

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-12, 18, and 19 remain in this application. Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, and 10 have been amended and claims 3 and 9 have been deleted, to more distinctly claim Applicants' invention. No new matter has been introduced. Support for the amendments can be found in the specification, e.g., page 2, line 23 to page 3, line 15; and page 4, line 24 to page 5, line 5.

THE REJECTIONS AND OBJECTIONS

1) The Examiner has objected to the specification and rejected claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12 under 35 U. S. C. §112, first and second paragraph, because of the use of the terms "aryl functional group" and "aromatic nitrogen containing heteroaryl functional group." It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to the claims have obviated this rejection. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

2) The Examiner has rejected claims 3 and 9 under 35 U. S. C. §112, second paragraph. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to the claims have obviated this rejection. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

3) The Examiner has rejected claims 1-12 under 35 U. S. C. §112, second paragraph. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to the claims have obviated this rejection. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

4) The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3, 6-7 and 12 under 35 U. S. C. §102(b) as being unpatentable over Elks et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Elks et al only describes 2-substituted α -carboline derivatives. Applicants' invention as presently claimed does not encompass 2-substituted α -carboline derivatives, i.e., neither "A" nor "B" can be a 2-substituted α -carboline.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1, 3, 6-7 and 12 under 35 U. S. C. §102(b) as being unpatentable over Elks et al, is improper. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

3) The Examiner has rejected claims 1-12 and 18-19 under 35 U. S. C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Elks et al, Wood, and Markley et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, Elks et al only describe 2-substituted α -carboline derivatives. Applicants' invention as presently claimed does not encompass 2-substituted α -carboline derivatives, i.e., neither "A" nor "B" can be a 2-substituted α -carboline.

Wood describes bis-thio-2-pyridinecarboxylic acid derivatives. Applicants' invention as presently claimed does not encompass bis-thio-2-pyridinecarboxylic derivatives, i.e., no combination of "A", "L" and "B" can be a bis-thio-2-pyridinecarboxylic derivative.

Markley et al describe sulfur-substituted phenoxy pyridines. In the Markley et al sulfur-substituted phenoxy pyridines which are the most similar to the compounds useful in Applicants' invention as presently claimed, the equivalent of the "B" component must be substituted by a phenoxy group. In Applicants' invention as presently claimed, "B" cannot have a "phenoxy" substituent.

It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that none the cited references, alone or in combination, teach or suggest Applicants' invention as presently claimed.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-12 and 18-19 under 35 U. S. C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Elks et al, Wood, and Markley et al, is improper. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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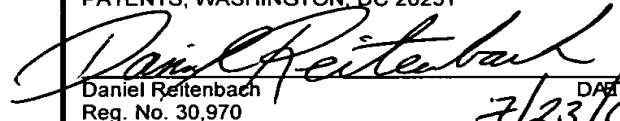
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